



ATTACHMENT B Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

17. (Currently Amended) A primary unit for use in a power transfer system that has a plurality of portable electrical or electronic devices of different types, the devices being separable from the primary unit and adapted to receive power from the primary unit by inductive coupling when the devices is-are placed on or in proximity to the primary unit, the primary unit comprising:

a power transfer surface; and

an inductive power supply which supplies power inductively;

the primary unit being arranged such that the at least two said devices of different types can be placed in any position along a line extending in one translational dimension across the power transfer surface to simultaneously receive power inductively from the inductive power supply; and further comprising

at least one attaching element, which is independent of the inductive power supply, and which for temporarily releasably attaches the at least two devices to the primary unit in any said position along said line such that the at least two devices is-are simultaneously held on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

said at least one attaching element(s)-element providing a non-gravitational force, acting to resist movement of the at least two devices away from the power transfer surface in a direction substantially orthogonal to that surface, when the at least two devices is-are attached to the primary unit in any said position along said line.

18. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 17, wherein at least one said attaching element is arranged on the power transfer surface.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 17, wherein said at least one attaching element comprises one or more of the following: hook-and-eye fasteners, suckers, reusable self-adhesive glue, a high stiction/friction surface, a permanent magnet or array of permanent magnets, an electromagnet or array of electromagnets, and electrostatically-charged terminals.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 17, wherein said at least one attaching element comprises a spiked system having a plurality of spikes.

24. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 17, wherein at least one said attaching element has one or more aesthetic or visual qualities to indicate to a user that the primary unit is available to supply power inductively.

25. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 24, wherein said qualities include one or more of: a colour, texture, pattern, logo design, and a material.

26. (Currently Amended) A primary unit according to claim 24, wherein at least one of said qualities changes according to an operating state of the primary unit and/or the devices.

27. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 17, wherein there are two or more classes of portable electrical or electronic device, and at least one said attaching element has one or more aesthetic or visual qualities to inform a user that the primary unit, or a certain part thereof, is appropriate for supplying power inductively to a particular said class of device.

28. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 27, wherein said qualities include one or more of: a colour, texture, pattern, logo design, and a material.

29. (Currently Amended) A primary unit according to claim 27, wherein at least one of said qualities changes according to an operating state of the primary unit and/or the devices.

30. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 17, wherein the power transfer surface is flat.

31. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 17, wherein the power transfer surface extends vertically when the primary unit is in use.

32. (Currently Amended) A system for transferring power to at least one a plurality of portable electrical or electronic devices of different types by inductive coupling, comprising:

a primary unit having a power transfer surface and an inductive power supply which supplies power inductively;

a plurality of portable electrical or electronic devices of different types separable from the primary unit and adapted to receive power inductively from the inductive power supply when the devices is-are placed on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

the primary unit and the devices being arranged such that the at least two said devices of different types can be placed in any position along a line extending in one translational dimension across the power transfer surface to receive power inductively from the inductive power supply; and

at least one attaching element, which is independent of the inductive power supply, and which for temporarily releasably attaches attaching the at least two devices to the primary unit in any said position along said line such that the at least two devices is-are simultaneously held on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

said at least one attaching element(s) element providing a non-gravitational force, acting to resist movement of the at least two devices away from the power

transfer surface in a direction substantially orthogonal to that surface, when the at least two devices is-are attached to the primary unit in any said position along said line.

33. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 32, wherein, for each of said at least two devices, at least one said attaching element is arranged on a surface of the device concerned, which surface is on or in proximity to the power transfer surface when the device concerned is placed to receive power inductively from the inductive power supply.

34. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 32, wherein, for each of said at least two devices, said at least one attaching element comprise a first attaching element arranged on the device concerned and a second attaching element arranged on the power transfer surface, the first element corresponding to the second element such that the device concerned is attachable to the power transfer surface, but the device concerned is not attachable to another such device, and the power transfer surface is not attachable to another such power transfer surface.

35. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 32, wherein, for each of said at least two devices, at least one said attaching element comprises a plurality of projections on one of the device concerned and the power transfer surface, and a plurality of corresponding holes on the other.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 32, comprising at least two primary units and at least two portable devices, wherein a first primary unit and a first portable device have an attaching element of a first type, and the second primary unit and the second portable device have an attaching element of a second type, such that a primary unit with an attaching element of one type cannot be attached to a portable device having attaching element of the other type.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 32, wherein the at least two devices is-are below the power transfer surface when held on or in proximity thereto in use of the system.

41. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 32, wherein the primary unit is carried in or by a movable conveyance.

42. (Currently Amended) A portable electrical or electronic device adapted to receive power from a primary unit that has a power transfer surface and an inductive power supply which supplies power inductively,

said device being separable from the primary unit and having an inductive power receiver adapted to receive power from the inductive power supply by inductive coupling when the device is placed on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

the device being arranged such that the device can be placed in any position along a line extending in one translational dimension across the power transfer surface to receive power inductively from the inductive power supply,

and wherein the device comprises at least one attaching element which is independent of said inductive power receiver and comprising suckers, or a self-adhesive or rubbery surface, disposed on the power transfer surface which temporarily releasably attaches the device to the primary unit in any said position along said line such that the device is held on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

said attaching element(s) providing a non-gravitational force, acting to resist movement of the device away from the power transfer surface in a direction substantially orthogonal to that surface, when the device is attached to the primary unit in any said position along said line.

43. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 42, wherein at least one said attaching element has one or more aesthetic or visual qualities to indicate to a user that the device is capable of receiving power inductively.

44. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 42, wherein there are one or more classes of portable electrical or electronic device, and at least one said attaching

element has one or more aesthetic or visual qualities to inform a user that the device belongs to a particular said class of device.

45-60. (Canceled)

61. (Currently Amended) A primary unit for use in a power transfer system that has a plurality of portable electrical or electronic devices of different types, the devices being separable from the primary unit and adapted to receive power from the primary unit by inductive coupling when the devices are placed on or in proximity to the primary unit, the primary unit comprising:

a power transfer surface; and

means for supplying power inductively;

the primary unit being arranged such that the at least two said devices of different types can be placed in any position along a line extending in one translational dimension across the power transfer surface to simultaneously receive power inductively from the supplying means; and further comprising connecting means, independent of the supplying means, for temporarily releasably attaching the at least two devices to the primary unit in any said position along said line such that the at least two devices are simultaneously held on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

said connecting means being adapted to provide a non-gravitational force, acting to resist movement of the at least two devices away from the power transfer surface in a

direction substantially orthogonal to that surface, when the at least two devices is-are attached to the primary unit in any said position along said line.

62-71. (Canceled)

72. (Currently Amended) A primary unit for use in a power transfer system that has a plurality of portable electrical or electronic devices of different types, the devices being separable from the primary unit and adapted to receive power from the primary unit by inductive coupling when the devices is-are placed on or in proximity to the primary unit, the primary unit comprising:

a power transfer surface; and

an inductive power supply which supplies power inductively;

the primary unit being arranged such that the at least two said devices of different types can be placed in any position within an uninterrupted two-dimensional area of the power transfer surface to simultaneously receive power inductively from the inductive power supply; and further comprising

at least one attaching element, which is independent of the inductive power supply, and which for temporarily releasably attaches attaching the at least two devices to the primary unit in any said position within said area such that the at least two devices is-are simultaneously held on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

said at least one attaching element(s) element providing a non-gravitational force, acting to resist movement of the at least two devices away from the power

transfer surface in a direction substantially orthogonal to that surface, when the at least two devices is-are attached to the primary unit in any said position within said area.

73. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 72, wherein at least one said attaching element is arranged on the power transfer surface.

74. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 72, wherein said at least one attaching element comprises one or more of the following: hook-and-eye fasteners, suckers, reusable self-adhesive glue, a high stiction/friction surface, a permanent magnet or array of permanent magnets, an electromagnet or array of electromagnets, and electrostatically-charged terminals.

75. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 72, wherein said at least one attaching element comprises a spiked system having a plurality of spikes.

76. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 72, wherein at least one said attaching element has one or more aesthetic or visual qualities to indicate to a user that the primary unit is available to supply power inductively.

77. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 76, wherein said qualities include one or more of: a colour, texture, pattern, logo design, and a material.

78. (Currently Amended) A primary unit according to claim 76, wherein at least one of said qualities changes according to an operating state of the primary unit and/or the devices.

79. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 72, wherein there are two or more classes of portable electrical or electronic device, and at least one said attaching element has one or more aesthetic or visual qualities to inform a user that the primary unit, or a certain part thereof, is appropriate for supplying power inductively to a particular said class of device.

80. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 79, wherein said qualities include one or more of: a colour, texture, pattern, logo design, and a material.

81. (Currently Amended) A primary unit according to claim 79, wherein at least one of said qualities changes according to an operating state of the primary unit and/or the devices.

82. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 72, wherein the power transfer surface is flat.

83. (Previously Presented) A primary unit according to claim 72, wherein the power transfer surface extends vertically when the primary unit is in use.

84. (Currently Amended) A system for transferring power to ~~at least one~~ a plurality of portable electrical or electronic devices of different types by inductive coupling, comprising:

a primary unit having a power transfer surface and an inductive power supply which supplies power inductively;

a plurality of portable electrical or electronic devices of different types separable from the primary unit and adapted to receive power inductively from the inductive power supply when the devices are ~~is~~ placed on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

the primary unit and the devices being arranged such that the at least two ~~said~~ -devices of different types can be placed in any position within an uninterrupted two-dimensional area of the power transfer surface to receive power inductively from the inductive power supply; and

at least one attaching element, which is independent of the inductive power supply, ~~and which~~ ~~for~~ temporarily releasably attaches attaching the at least two devices to the primary unit in any said position within said area such that the at least two devices is ~~are~~ simultaneously held on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

said at least one attaching element(s) element providing a non-gravitational force, acting to resist movement of the at least two devices away from the power transfer surface in a direction substantially orthogonal to that surface, when the at least two devices is ~~are~~ attached to the primary unit in any said position within said area.

85. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 84, wherein, for each of said at least two devices, at least one said attaching element is arranged on a surface of the device concerned, which surface is on or in proximity to the power transfer surface when the device concerned is placed to receive power inductively from the inductive power supply.

86. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 84, wherein, for each of said at least two devices, said at least one attaching element comprise a first attaching element arranged on the device concerned and a second attaching element arranged on the power transfer surface, the first element corresponding to the second element such that the device concerned is attachable to the power transfer surface, but the device concerned is not attachable to another such device, and the power transfer surface is not attachable to another such power transfer surface.

87. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 84, wherein, for each of said at least two devices, at least one said attaching element comprises a plurality of projections on one of the device concerned and the power transfer surface, and a plurality of corresponding holes on the other.

88. (Canceled)

89. (Canceled)

90. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 84, comprising at least two primary units and at least two portable devices, wherein a first primary unit and a first portable device have an attaching element of a first type, and the second primary unit and the second portable device have an attaching element of a second type, such that a primary unit with an attaching element of one type cannot be attached to a portable device having attaching element of the other type.

91. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 84, wherein the at least two devices isare below the power transfer surface when held on or in proximity thereto in use of the system.

92. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 84, wherein the primary unit is carried in or by a movable conveyance.

93. (Currently Amended) A portable electrical or electronic device adapted to receive power from a primary unit that has a power transfer surface and an inductive power supply which supplies power inductively,

said device being separable from the primary unit and having an inductive power receiver adapted to receive power from the inductive power supply by inductive coupling when the device is placed on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

the device being arranged such that the device can be placed in any position within an uninterrupted two-dimensional area of the power transfer surface to receive power inductively from the inductive power supply,

and wherein the device comprises at least one attaching element which is independent of said inductive power receiver and comprising suckers, or a self-adhesive or rubbery surface, disposed on the power transfer surface which temporarily releasably attaches the device to the primary unit in any said position within said area such that the device is held on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

said at least one attaching element(s) element providing a non-gravitational force, acting to resist movement of the device away from the power transfer surface in a direction substantially orthogonal to that surface, when the device is attached to the primary unit in any said position within said area.

94. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 93, wherein at least one said attaching element has one or more aesthetic or visual qualities to indicate to a user that the device is capable of receiving power inductively.

95. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 93, wherein there are one or more classes of portable electrical or electronic device, and at least one said attaching element has one or more aesthetic or visual qualities to inform a user that the device belongs to a particular said class of device.

96. (Currently Amended) A primary unit for use in a power transfer system that has a plurality of portable electrical or electronic devices of different types, the devices being separable from the primary unit and adapted to receive power from the primary unit by

inductive coupling when the devices is-are placed on or in proximity to the primary unit, the primary unit comprising:

a power transfer surface; and

means for supplying power inductively;

the primary unit being arranged such that the at least two said devices of different types can be placed in any position within an uninterrupted two-dimensional area of the power transfer surface to simultaneously receive power inductively from the supplying means; and further comprising

connecting means, independent of the supplying means, for temporarily releasably attaching the at least two devices to the primary unit in any said position within said area such that the at least two devices is-are simultaneously held on or in proximity to the power transfer surface,

said connecting means being adapted to provide a non-gravitational force, acting to resist movement of the at least two devices away from the power transfer surface in a direction substantially orthogonal to that surface, when the at least two devices is-are attached to the primary unit in any said position within said area.